



IFW

AFH/1724
SI

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 03768/09376
14737

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Varriale, *et al.*) Group Art Unit: 1724
Serial No.: 09/675,464) Examiner: Thomas M. Lithgow
Filed: September 28, 2000) Deposit Account: 50-2548
For: Method and Apparatus for)
Multistage Liquid Filtration)

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

OK TO ENTER
TM 8 6/2004

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed January 14, 2004, please consider the following Amendment and Remarks. The present response was due on April 14, 2004. Therefore, the present response is being submitted with the required two-month extension of time request under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 to extend the period of response to June 14, 2004. If any extension of time or additional fees for the accompanying response are required, Applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefor. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required to Deposit Account 50-2548.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.